

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-6, 8-10, and 13-23 are pending in the application. Claims 7, 11, and 12 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer in the Supplemental Preliminary Amendment filed February 3, 2004.

The Nonstatutory Double Patenting Rejection of Claims 1-6, 8-10, and 13-23

Claims 1-6, 8-10, and 13-23 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-12 of U.S. Patent No. 6,646,010.

In the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) over the above-cited U.S. Patent No. 6,646,010, as well as related U.S. Patent Nos. 6,417,387; 6,248,775; 6,060,476; 5,968,942; and 5,843,946.

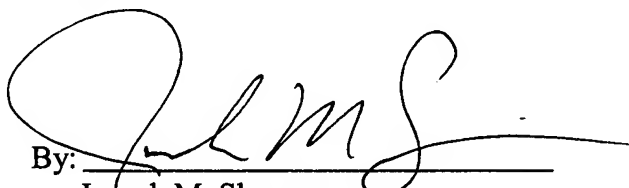
Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, all pending claims of this application are believed to be in condition for allowance, and acknowledgement of the same is respectfully requested. This response is believed to completely address all of the substantive issues raised in the Office Action dated August 20, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

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